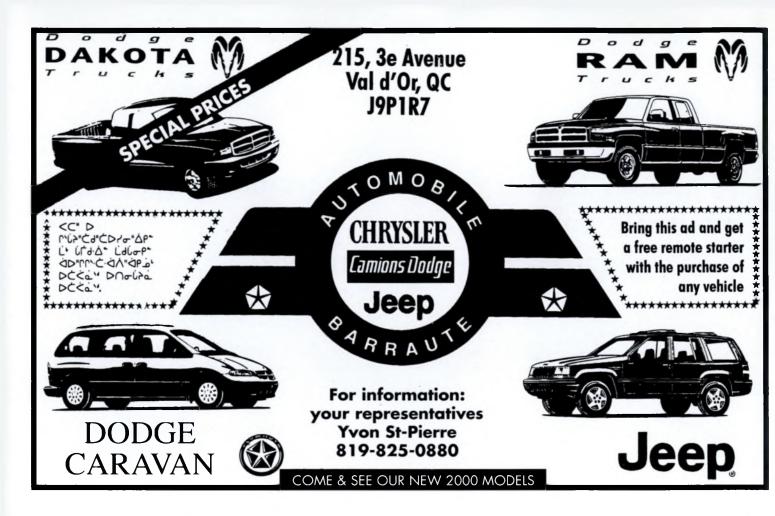
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- Jean Deval
- Aboriginal Services in Montreal









NATIVE PEOPLE'S IDENTITY OFTEN CLOUDED

BY JODI RAVE LEE

With the majestic Flat Irons towering outside the University of Colorado's humanities building, I recently sat in an auditorium waiting to be introduced as part of a media panel discussion.

Before the panel began, a young indigenous student introduced the moderator — Shoba Rajgibal, a doctoral student from India. The young Osage woman ended the introduction by unwittingly describing Rajgibal as "the other Indian."

A number of us chuckled.

Rajgibal wasn't the "the other Indian." Those of us representing the Lakota, Apache, Ojihwe, Mavajo and Hidatsa were the "the other Indian."

The event led me to ponder, once again, the identity of American Indians, also known as Native Americans, also known as Indians.

Those collective names have stuck for centuries, beginning more than 500 years ago when Christopher Columbus called the first indigenous people he met "Indians." As the story goes, he thought he had met people of the East Indies.

As time passed, colonists invented and placed dozens of names upon North America's native inhabitants. Like a number of North American indigenous nations, the largest tribe in this country once called themselves "The People." If you said that phrase in their tribal tongue, they would be called Dine (di neh).

To the rest of the world, the Dine eventually became known as the Navajo. The origin of the word Navajo is disputed, but is believed to be of Spanish derivation. It's only been in recent years that the tribe began to publicly reclaim its traditional name.

Meanwhile, many other tribes became widely known by their enemy's description of them. Take the Lakota, which means "alliance of friends" in the Lakota language. Instead, they became known as the Sioux, a French variation of an Ojibwe word meaning "treacherous snake."

Collective labels such as Indian ended up encompassing more than 550 tribal nations in Morth America, including 221 Alaskan native villages.

Today, newspapers across the country rely on the "Associated Press Stylebook" when it comes to define indigenous people in print.

Listed under "Indians," the 1997 definition reads: "American Indian is the preferred term for those in the United States. Where possible, be precise and use the name of the tribe: He is a Navajo commissioner. Native American is acceptable in quotations and names of organizations."

The use of American Indian is more acceptable than Mative American, which continually

loses its flavor. The term has become bland as more and more people choose to identify themselves as Mative American simply because they were born in America.

Actor Charlton Heston, also president of the National Rifle Association, recently summed it up in Time magazine: "I'm pissed off when Indians say they're Native Americans! I'm Native American, for chrisakes!"

The term Indian has its own baggage: Lazy

Indian. Drunk Indian. Wild Indian.

Although national organizations such as the Mative American Journalists Association have adopted the label — much the way the Navajo and Sioux came to accept their names — the organization will discuss the Native identity issue during its 16th annual conference next month in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Michael Yellow Bird, an assistant professor at the University of Kansas, will help lead a NAJA discussion about how native people want to identified Exploring the issue in the Spring 1999 "American Indian Quarterly," he writes that Indian, American Indian and Native American are oppressive, misleading, inaccurate, counterfeit identities

He also asserts that a refusal to use those terms would represent "an important paradigm shift of the identity of Indigenous Peoples in the United States."

As Yellow Bird and other like-minded people call for the end of labels such as Indian, many tribal people have begun referring to themselves collectively as "native" or "indigenous." The first preference is to be identified to a specific tribal entity: Lakota Nation. Ojibwey Nation. Omaha Nation.

In 1987, the "Associated Press Stylebook" listed several words -- including powwow and teepee -- deemed "disparaging and offensive" to Indians, advising reporters not to use them. It also went on to define American Indians as those who "migrated to the continent over a land bridge from Asia"

The land bridge theory was highly disputed in native circles and is no longer a part of the stylebook definition of Indians.

In the current stylebook, one still finds references to native people under the heading of Indians where American Indian remains listed as the preferred term. And for some odd reason, powwow and teepee continue to be deemed offensive.

Perhaps it's time for another change.

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ON THE COVER

Family Boating
Photographer: unknown
at this time

Cover Design: Sylvia Tennisco



Where is Ndiamon? Oh where can he be?

I was possessed by this tiny voice

that told me that I should give ndiamon a break and write rez notes. Yes, what else could it be but some form of a paranormal experience. Neil is presently being worked to the bone. The company is presently exploiting every ounce of his creative and physical body. I felt sorry for him and thought that he deserved a break. (Really, I didn't want to sidetrack him by having him write the column, as we want to drive him 'til he drops on this other project that he's working on.) To relieve him of the last minute panic to submit the column, I made sure that he was informed that someone would be writing it. I'm not sure what he thinks about this. I started thinking about what to write about a week ago and planned to write it well in advance. But, one night I was brain dead and so put it off. Another day passed and things happened. Finally, vesterday was to be the day and everything wrong that could have happened, happened. So, here I am at the last minute scrambling to be somewhat entertaining and as witty as the creator of this column. I am writing about writing rez notes. Hmmmm. A favourite topic of someone that I know. I still feel possessed. When will it end. My quess - is sometime late next month. I promise you all to never ever do this again! Neil will return next time. I promise. And I will return to my normal self and rez notes will be back on track. This is our way of getting you to appreciate the regular column.

In my research, I found the very first rez notes in Volume 2, No. 21, October 6, 1995. That's almost 5

years ago. Praise to Ndiamon. Now I know what you've been going through all this time.

Gossip - Heard so much juicy stuff this week but can't share it as would lose job and maybe paper would even get sued. Too bad I say. It's soooo good. (Gossip is great) Ndiamon would strangle me. Maybe just a hint. Someone in Chisasibi is having an affair with someone in Montreal and too many people know about it. Ancient Toltec teachings (from thousands of years ago in Mexico) say that gossiping is the way we communicate to each other in the dream of hell and transfer poison to one another. Because we are afraid to ask for clarification we make assumptions and believe we are right about the assumptions; then we defend our assumptions and try to make everyone else wrong. It is always better to ask questions than to make assumptions, because assumptions set you up for suffering.(Don Miguel Ruiz; The Four Agreements, A Toltec Wisdom Book, Amber-Allen Publishing, California, 1997)

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LOGGING FIGHT GOING TO SUPREME COURT?

by Alex Roslin

The Cree forestry battle looks like it's going all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Cree officials last week had all but made up their minds to take the Cree forestry lawsuit to the country's highest court, after the Quebec Court of Appeal overturned a ruling that found Quebec and Canada had violated Cree rights.

In its May 15 decision, the Court of Appeal also upheld the removal of judge Jean-Jacques Croteau from the forestry case.

The appeal court stuck Crees with a \$15,000 bill for court costs.

Croteau is the judge who ruled in favour of the Crees on December 20, saying Quebec had "openly and continually violated" Cree rights under the 1975 James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

This is the ruling the appeal court struck down on May 15.

Cree chiefs met last week and were pretty much decided they would appeal the latest rulings to the Supreme Court.

"We are going to appeal," said Chief Paul Gull, chair of the Cree forestry working group. "It all depends on whether there are any other recourses." Crees have until August 4 to file an appeal.

Between now and then, a breakthrough in relations with Quebec is still possible.

It's now almost certain that Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard will finally meet Grand Chief Ted Moses sometime in June.

Moses has called for the meeting for months in hopes of breaking through the impasse in Cree-Quebec relations.

The relationship got derailed last year when Quebec Native Affairs Minister Guy Chevrette

suspended \$132 million in community funding to the Crees that had been promised with much fanfare in a 1997 memorandum of understanding.

The cut-off of funds left numerous community projects high and dry.

One such project is the long-awaited youth centre in Waswanipi. Frustrated youth in the community have decided not to wait any longer and are discussing the idea of walking all the way to Quebec City to bring attention to the situation.

They intend to pass through Premier Bouchard's riding of Jonquière in the Saguenay region. The walk would probably take place sometime before St. Jean Baptiste Day.

More pressure will be brought to bear on Quebec when a Cree delegation, including people from Waswanipi and Ouje-Bougoumou, travels to Atlanta, Georgia, to lobby a May 31 Home Depot share-holders' meeting.

The Crees will ask Home Depot to boycott lumber cut in lyiyuuschii.

Home Depot is the world's largest retailer of old-growth lumber and buys \$700 million worth of goods each year in Quebec. A boycott by Home Depot, the Walmart of home improvement, would be a devastating blow to the Quebec government and forestry industry.

The company is already concerned about bad publicity from the Cree visit. It has been targeted by U.S. environmentalists who say it encourages the destruction of old-growth forests.

They have even created a web site to pressure the company (homedepotsucks.com).

Matthew Coon Come, National Chief?

Cree statesman, philosopher, honourary doctor and black belt Matthew Coon Come is expected to run for National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

A source close to Coon Come said he is talking seriously about running. Candidates are to announce officially in early June.
Current National Chief Phil Fontaine's term expires in July.

The source said Coon Come's platform is likely to be "a return to rights -- Aboriginal rights, human rights."

Some Cree officials are grumbling that in recent years the AFN's priority has been simply lobbying for improved services to First Nations, with little concrete results.

"It's just take the money and run.
They're negotiating the terms of the administration of our poverty," said the source.

"Matthew is a rights guy."

A Toronto newspaper has reported that Coon Come, the former Cree Grand Chief, is one of four likely candidates for the \$125,000 job of representing the AFN's 630 member First Nations.

Fontaine is expected to seek a second term. He defeated Ovide Mercredi in 1997.

The other two candidates are expected to be Marilyn Buffalo, a Samson Cree who was president of the Native Women's Association of Canada and an advisor to Mercredi, and Lawrence Martin, Grand Chief of the Mushkegowuk Crees of northern Ontario.

Coon Come's name was also floated as a possible candidate in the 1997 AFN election, but he didn't go for it at that time.

Five candidates for chair

Five candidates have stepped forward to contest the first-ever general election for chair of the Cree School Board. They are George Blacksmith, Kenny Blacksmith, Mabel Herodier, Luke MacLeod and Kathleen Wootton. The vote was June 1.

Logging protest threatens to escalate

A protest against logging by members of the New Post and Wahgoshig First Nations

Please see BRIEFS, pag 9

TO: The Nation

Grandpa Kenny

Our grandfather Kenny Mianscum was a caring, loving man, especially to his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was never too busy for us. He was patient, understanding, he was always there to listen. He loved his grandchildren and great grandchildren equally as much as he loved hunting, trapping and the land.

Grandpa, we will remember you as a man with many stories, a great storyteller. Only God knows how many hours you have spent in you life, telling stories to people around you or to just anyone walking by the street. You always said that you liked telling short stories; usually a short story became a long story. You brought us great laughter with your stories. We will always cherish these memories.

On March 27, 2000, as you haved there before us, we mourned your passing away but also, we can accept it as a relief. You were lying in a hospital bed for fifteen months. You have suffered long enough. Most of all, we know that you are reunited with our grandmother Mariah. Reunited in a place where there is no harm, no pain and no suffering, a place called heaven. May you have long lasting happiness.

Grandpa Kenny, we will always remember you. You may not be with us on Earth anymore, but you always remain in our hearts. We will cherish every moment you have spent with us. May you rest in peace.

Love Always,

Your grandchildren and great grandchildren

This is dedicated to our loving Grandfather Kenny Mianscum, Who passed away on March 27, 2000.

"... Whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life" John 5:24





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NUNAVIK HEALTH BOARD IS "DISCONNECTED" **"It's very**, very far from Inuit people": Inukjuak mayor

When the Inuit signed the James Bay Agreement in 1975, they were promised their own health board. It was supposed to be run by the Inuit, for the Inuit.

Twenty-five years later, a generation of Inuit who grew up with the Nunavik Health Board is growing alarmed about about how it's run. Their complaints parallel those of Crees who took the Cree Health Board to task at a special assembly on health and social services last year.

But the problems in Nunavik seem even worse. The Inuit communities are plagued by one of the world's highest suicide rates. Many Inuit health workers actually look to the Cree Health Board as an inspiration and a model for how their own healthcare system could be managed.

One of the Nunavik Health Board's critics is Siasi Smiler, the mayor of Inukjuak. She sat on the board of directors of the health board as the representative of the Kativik Regional Government for three years. Before that, she was her community's representative on the board.

A year and a half ago, Smiler resigned in protest over how the health board is run. "That organization is just not connected to Nunavik at all. I feel so sad for that," she said.

"It's very, very far from Inuit people." Smiler said she tried to raise her concerns at health board meetings, but she was always ignored and dismissed. "There's an unspoken way that is carried out by people who work there. It's

almost like manipulating people into doing something," she said. "There is a sense of something not being right, but when you try to address it it's turned around."

In the last issue of The Nation, current and former Nunavik health workers said there is a chronic lack of trained Inuit professionals. Out of 50 to 60 nurses, only three are Inuit. This creates a language and cultural barrier between health workers and Inuit community members. The non-Inuit health professionals have a high turnover rate, which is disruptive to good health services, they said.

Eli Weetaluktuk, executive director of the Puvirnituq hospital, said the Nunavik health network doesn't "seem to have the will to train Inuit people to become nurses and doctors."

Lizzie York, a former executive director of the Nunavik Health Board, said non-Inuit staff often made racist comments about Inuit staff and clients.

Smiler, who is York's sister, shares the concerns about the lack of Inuit staff: "A lot of positions at the health board are held by professionals hired from the south. I thought it was very hard to get in touch with those people, even though they were in the same community. It was like speaking to people in Quebec City."

Another big concern, like at the Cree Health Board, is lack of funds. "There is always underfunding, all the time," said Smiler. But the problems go beyond that, she said: "It's different here. You need a

different approach. But that statement did not exist in the way

by Alex Roslin they work."

Health veteran "disgusted" by health board

A veteran health professional who worked for four years for the Nunavik Health Board says she was shocked by the lack of training and supervision provided for new Inuit health staff.

Inuit health workers were often pushed aside and treated as mere tokens by non-Inuit staff, she said.

And gobs of money were wasted on unnecessary travel by non-Inuit professionals taking trips south, she added.

"I was disgusted by the health board," said Lynne, a veteran social worker and manager with 17 years experience in the health field, including four in Nunavik.

She didn't want her name used because she fears repurcussions against her former colleagues who are still with the board.

In southern health establishments, Lynne said new staff get weeks of intensive onthe-job training and close supervision.

They never get complicated or sensitive cases until everyone is sure they're ready.

In Nunvaik, it was the opposite. "Inuit people taking new positions don't have nearly the support I did when I was starting out," said Lynne, who isn't an Inuk herself.

"Normally, there is an introduction to the job and close supervision. But (in Nunavik), people are expected to do the job right awav."

One Inuit social services worker who had never worked in the field before simply sat in her new office with nothing to do for the first two weeks, Lynne said.

Social workers with little previous experience would be assigned to handle complicated family crises, or to testify in court about a case.

Ordinarily, court testimonies require special training because they are one of the most sensitive parts of the job; a family's future could be at stake.

"Look at what you can do to the family if you do the job wrong," said Lynne. "In the south, there is a lot of training and supervision before you go to court."

Please see BULLDOZED, page 9

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Briefs_

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in northern Ontario is threatening to escalate.

Community leaders predict a "serious confrontation" if Abitibi-Consolidated goes through with plans to breach a Native blockade set up to prevent clear-cutting by Abitibi loggers on traditional lands east of Cochrane -- a sacred burial ground and spiritually-significant area. Montreal-based Abitibi-Consolidated is the world's largest forest-products company.

Oblates, Anglicans warn of Imminent bankruptcy

The Catholic Oblate order says it's on the verge of bankruptcy because of lawsuits related to residential schools.

Meanwhile, the Anglican Church claims it will be bankrupted by next year unless the federal government agrees to save it from the spiralling costs of the residential-school lawsuits.

Some 1,900 lawsuits filed against the Oblates have cost the missionary order nearly \$1 million.

According to a Canadian Press report,
Oblate priest Jean-Paul Isabelle blamed the
government for leaving the order twisting in
the wind. He also lashed out at "unscrupulous lawyers," whom he accused of
pushing Native people to file complaints
even when they had "no bad memories"
from their residential school days.

Over 7,000 lawsuits have been filed in all against the Catholic, Anglican, United and Presbyterian churches.

A financial audit of the Anglican Church of Canada prepared by an accounting firm said litigation fees and settlements of lawsuits will exhaust the church's roughly \$10 million in national assets in 2001.

Once that happens, the national organization of the church will be forced into bankruptcy and local parishes will lose financial support, according to the report.

Most dioceses, however, are selfsupporting and many include wealthy parishes, whose assets are not affected by the lawsuits. They have been unwilling to help the national church organization pay for the legal claims.



Cree man marching from Edmonton to Ottawa

A Cree man frustrated at the slow pace of compensation to survivors of residential schools has set out to march from Edmonton to Ottawa.

Robert Desjarlais, 53, left the Alberta capital on April 24. He hopes to reach Parliament Hill in late June.

While walking along the highway outside North Battleford, Saskatchewan, a couple of

weeks ago, he told one newspaper reporter he is engaged on a personal search for justice and wants to shame the government into action.

"There seems to be only one class of people who get justice in this country of ours," he said.

"There's a lot of people who aren't looked after, people who can't afford a lawyer."

The Edmonton man plans to complete the last 100 miles of his journey barefoot.

Bulldozed_

continued from page 7

Lynne said non-Inuit "bulldozed" Inuit staff and used them to "rubberstamp" decisions. "They didn't want to have locals question what they were doing," she said.

"The Inuit staff were seen as tokens even if they had lots of training or experience or skills," she said.

Lynne also disputed the idea that the Nunavik Health Board's problems all come from underfunding.

"There seems to be a lot of money, but it's wasted on a lot of traveling south. The supervisors seem to be always down south. No one can do that and know what's going on (in Nunavik)," she said.

"I just couldn't believe the money that was wasted by people who don't know what they are doing," she said, adding

that non-Inuit health staff were the ones responsible for the bulk of the waste.

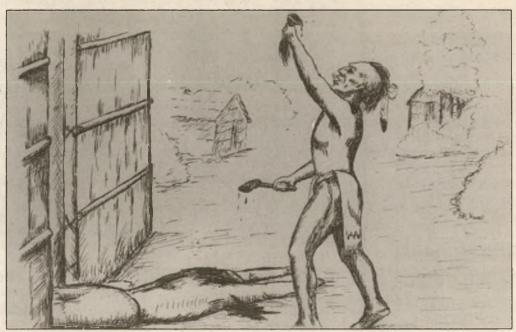
Lynne echoed the concerns of many Inuit and some former health workers in Nunavik that the health board is disconnected from the Inuit communities. She said the situation was tragic because of the crying health and social-services needs of the Inuit people.

"People are wanting help, wanting you to work with them. But the priorities (at the health board) were respecting Quebec City, rather than ever hearing the needs of the communities," she said.

Minnie Grey, the Nunavik Health Board's executive director, agreed that the lack of Inuit staff has hurt health care and social services.

But she refused to respond to the criticisms made by the current and former employees. "It has to do with individual conflicts," she said. "They have no validity whatsoever. It's disgruntled employees."

Jean Deval- a colonists tale



By Micheal Stewart

Ed Note: This piece of fiction deserved to be in the Nation by virtue of it's existence. I've read many a tale over the years where non-Native write from a first person standpoint where they assume the persona and attributes of a First Nations person during the early colonial days. This is the first I've come across where the opposite has happened. Enjoy

"Two years ago, I, Jean Beval dared to suggest that the savages who live in the forest around us are people."

&asps filled the room. Some of the Jury members whispered among themselves glaring at Beval like the traitor he had been pointed out to be. The Judge had to repeatedly strike the gavel yelling "Order" over and over until, eventually order was restored. He then instructed Beval to continue.

"Don't get me wrong. Just like every one of you, I once believed that these people were just savages." He said trying to establish some common ground with the Jury. "In fact, I think I wanted that belief more than any of you."

The jurors stared at him with utter disbelief.

"But after taking the time to learn their language and listen to what they had to say, I came to believe they are people with intelligence and wisdom that is and should become a benefit to our society."

"They are Savages!' Mark interrupted.

"Call them what you will," replied Deval invalidating Mark's insult. "Red skins, savages, natives. I don't care. What I had was a belief not fact," He looked around and found his listener's cautious.

"I am a simple man. I'm am not highly learned in the ways of the world. And I never for a moment thought that it was even my place to decide what is people and what is not. Which is why I

took this belief before

these three men. It was an effort to prove myself wrong."
The room was silent.

"I wanted that justifiable reason that every one had - that insight which leads to conformation, that inner voice which truthfully said they were savages and nothing more. I searched for it."

Many of the Jurors sported frowns, silently questioning Deval's honesty. He tried not to notice but couldn't help feeling defeated.

"I dug deep into the pockets of my soul and got nothing but lint, but I searched," he claimed, "and I decided that what I thought was wrong. My belief was wrong. It had to be!"

Mark, Champlain, Poutincourt and Stewart nudged each other as Beval paused to collect his thoughts and scratch his neck. He then looked at Stewart, the Minister, and continued.

"So, I approached the church," Minister Stewart adjusted his jacket and collar. He appeared uncomfortable. "Because, I believed, if there was a place to find answers, it was in the House of the Lord." Stewart nodded his head in agreement.

"I promptly confessed my views to the Minister and when he said I was wrong, I believed it. He told me they were monsters, savages just like you say - incapable of rational thought and unable to be civil, certainly not worth worrying about," 5ome of the Jury members took a second to look at Stewart who wore a guilty smile. "but when I left the church, I was still confused, yet I tried to convince myself that he was right."

Stewart controlled himself as Deval pointed at him.

"God's wisdom can't be wrong can it?" He asked the jury. As a group, they responded by shaking their heads. "Can it?", he asked Minister Stewart who also responded by shaking his head.

"To say so would be blasphemy and I intended to believe

FICTION

I was wrong, but the thought persisted bay in and day out," he explained, "the notion raped my mind to a point where I thought I might go mad."

Beval took a moment to look at the Minister, recalling another point before

he continued.

"I prayed and I prayed for the thought to go away. I longed to be part of the status quo but I wasn't. After weeks of trying to redirect my own thinking, I still believed these savages were people."

Outrage filled the court room in the form of shocked gasps and whispers but Beval took no notice. He just looked again at Minister Stewart as he scratched his neck.

"So I returned to the church and spoke to the Minister again" The jury listened attentively.

"and tried to suggest to him gently, because I had a great deal of respect for the man, that maybe he had made a mistake, that perhaps

the status quo had interfered with God's Infinite Wisdom."

The Jury members looked on with understanding.

"As you can imagine, he became very insulted. He promptly asked me to leave and never return."

For a moment, the Jury looked upon Minister Stewart with partial disbelief making him feel very uncomfortable.

"I had acquired an enemy for life and his congregation quickly followed." He added, pausing for a moment to look at the court room audience. "I became the black sheep of the colony. Everyone knew about how I had disgraced the Minister and in disgracing him, I must have disgraced God Himself."

Minister Stewart Agreed.

"What I did next was very diplomatic."

Scornfully, Deval Pointed toward Captain Poutincourt, who was clad in his Naval uniform. He was unmoved by Deval's jesture.

"I looked for a second opinion."

The Captain remained undaunted.

"but it had to be someone who understood civil matters,"

The Captain nodded as if to say, yes, I am knowledgable of civil matters.

"someone on the leading edge of social issues and understanding of the needs and welfare of people in society."

The Captain nodded again.

"someone who had experience in the development of colonies, who had watched governments rise and fall,"

Another nod.

"someone who could possibly convince the church to forgive me..."

No reaction.

"...a politician," Deval claimed, knowing that the jury understood who he referred to. "a man whom I thought was wise considering his accomplishments, aman whom I thought to be fair considering his leadership skills, a man I even considered to be a friend."

A look of disgust quickly covered Poutincourts face as to say; never!

"and as a friend, I approached him and I listened carefully to his words as he, too, told me not to think much of the savages. To him, they were just a temporary blemish on the face of the new world which he was in charge of creating."

Deval paused for a moment.

"Well, it became apparent that this friend of mine was not as wise as I had once believed,"

Poutincourt tried not to look insulted but failed.

"neither was he as fair as I had once believed. In fact, I began questioning his leadership skills as well."

The desire to speak out was evident to the Jury but Poutincourt remained silent, shifting awkwardly in his chair.

"By the time I left his office, I had made another enemy."

Deval took in another deep breath pondering on the irony of it all, then

added:

"...and so it came to be that my full time occupation became making enemies and it didn't stop with our government and religious leaders either." He said solomnly, "In fact, my misfortune continued with our artistic community as well, more specifically - a writer," Mark shifted slightly in his seat.

"and we all know which one." He continued. "You see, writers know things."

He looked at Mark then changed his mind.

"At least, I thought they did until after speaking to this man." Mark looked down at his hands.

"I came to believe that if anyone could understand me, it would have to be him but why him?" He asked, prompting the Jury. "Well, he was a very good poet," He claimed, "and because he was such an established writer, I believed he had some great insight into this world of ours, some secret knowledge about us all that he could manipulate and entice us with."

Mark became uneasy.

"Well,... manipulation is the main ingredient in what this man does, but I do

the Nation

not believe he truly has any knowledge that is worth much." "Your Honour! If I may...", interrupted Mark.

"Mr. LesCarbot, you are out of order? replied the Judge. "But..." "Order?

" and as you can see after talking with this man, I had yet another enemy."

"Get to the point, Deval!" Mark said with an angry tone.

"Order!"

For a moment, the Judge lost control as Mark tried to start an argument but it was quickly regained. The Judge then instructed Deval to continue.

"...so after a short time, I had become enemies with a politician,..." He gestured toward Poutincourt, "...a priest,..." He pointed to Mr. Stewart,"...and a poet..." he finished directing the Jury's gaze toward Mark. "all because they considered the natives to be savages and I thought they were people."

"Why don't you give it up, Jean?"

Questioned Mark.

"I was ready too!" Deval replied. "In fact, I tried to forget the whole thing and I was ready to become a conformist but," he turned to the Jury and placed his hands on the railing of the Jury box. "This odd kind of revolution began to quietly happen before my eyes and I couldn't help but say 'I told you so!' at every opportunity."

Curiously, the Jury listened as Beval again turned the focus of his testimony toward Minister Stewart.

"It started with a wedding, a marriage between a gentleman and o savage woman, a marriage that was not recognized in the same church

from which I had been ex-communicated."

Shamefully, the minister blushed.

"Well," he explained. "this gentlemen was a rich man with rich friends who in the past had contributed to this some church," Beval grinned continuing with a satisfied smile on his face. "and when his rich friends heard about the difficulties that the minister had given this man and his "savage wife", they withdrew their financial contributions from the church, leaving the church in financial dire straits."

Embarassed, the Minister nodded in

agreement.

"It was only a matter of time then. You see, the minister watched as more and more of the men in his congregation found comfort in relationships with sav-

continued to page 12

age women."

Minister Stewart brought his hands to his forehead as Beval went on.

"A decision had to be made," he stated, "and that's when Lawrence Stewart and other Protestant Minister's here at Point Fortune, began converting the savages to Christianity."

Defeated, the Minister looked away from the Jury because this was true.

"Shortly after, the Catholic church followed suit but only after receiving a letter of entitlement from our Queen bock home."

There was a stirring from this point in the courtroom audience and jury.

"It was all about money, you see, traditionally the Catholic Church receives a commission or an allowance for every soul saved or baptised."

Gasps of disbelief filled the court-

"You didn't know that??

Many in the room shook their heads.

"Well, now you do." He added, "You see, the Catholic Church proposed the savages had souls that needed saving and they needed the financial support from the Queen to do God's work and I guess the Queen agreed,"

Stewart nodded to confirm.

"but, of course, these savages were still not people, but they have Souls!.. and right here is where my enemy in politics resurfaced."

With e glaring eye, Poutincourt looked up at Beval who smiled as he continued,

"You see, he was the men upon whom our Queen bestowed the responsibility of distributing these commissions and for his service he received e commission himself."

The great Captain nodded, agreeing without shame.

"Money changes everything even opinion? smirked Beval. "This brings me now back to our playwrite." He said, returning the focus back to Mark. "You see, I have always wondered how writers acquired financial again."

Mark smiled.

"Where does their money come from? Can anyone tell me?" He

asked the Jury members who didn't have the answer. "How about you?" He asked another. No answer. "Or you?"

Nothing but silence.

"No?...Well, recently I learned that writers, just like the churches, also receive commissions from the Queen."

Mark shrugged his shoulders high as if to say, 'so what?'

"but only if the writer has an idea



which the Queen deems worthy of such a commission."

Mark nodded, proud.

"Now, we all know that our playwrite lives quite comfortably. This is because our Queen recently gave him a grant to write a romantic comedy. Well, I do appreciate good literature and I just know that our Queen only commissions good plays and this idea our playwrite has is great."

Mark smirked.

"He has been commissioned to write a play about a French Princess who falls in love with a savage-man. Is that not correct?"

"Why don't you address the charges?" Mark shouted bitterly. "Order?

"and I am sure that it shall be a fine play..."

"Order!"

"...a spoiled girl facing the ways of the wilderness"

"Order, I say?

"with a overly intelligent Redskin who teaches her how to hunt" "Order!" "and fish."

"Address the charges, Beval!"

"maybe even scalp a white man or two."

"Order!" bellowed the judge.

"Get to the point, Deval!" screamed Mark.

"Order!"

"My point is that the four of you are the savages."

"Order!"

"so blinded by personal gain that you don't have time to see the truth."

"Order!"

"Unless, of course, there is some benefit in seeing otherwise."

"Mr. Beval and Mr. LesCarbot, shall I

find cells for the two of you to spend the night in?" inquired the Judge. The two men quickly controlled themselves, listening to the judges orders. "There will not be another outbreak like that again in this court room." The Judge shouted. "Now, Beval, continue."

"Thank-you, Your Honour." Beval replied turning to the jury. "Now that I have built the foundations of my argument, I shall address the charges as I understand them."

He looked hard and long at his accusers and then continued. "Correct me if I'm wrong, but it seems like I am being penned in as the leader of a group of Indian rebels who, unlike the savages we have converted into Christianity, oppose the changes that our colony has brought into this land."

Mark, Samuel, Minister Stewart and Poutincourt all nodded, agreeing with the statement.

"It seems like I am solely to blame."

Again they nodded.

"and I can understand the reasoning. These savages, although they have souls, I guess, they don't, in their opinions, have enough

intelligence to rebel in ways they have."

The jury seemed a bit confused.

"How can these uneducated beasts be able to get the best of us?" He questioned, the Jury had no reply. "There has to be a traitor, right?"

Some members of the Jury agreed, some didn't.

"Well...I wish I was guilty of this accusation because I would be proud of myself knowing that I finally stood up for something I believed in." He explained sealing his own fate. "You see, not only do I beleive that these savages are people. I have also come to believe that this colony has no right to be here."

Although confused the jury listened.

"These savages may not be es educated as we are, but how much education do you need to figure out who was here first? Just who do we think we are?"

Unexpectedly Beval turned to the courtroom audience and selected a man at random.

"YOU."

The man pointed to himself in disbelief.

"Yes, you."

The man nodded.

"How would you like it if say that man over there..."

He pointed to another man in the crowd.

"...walked into your house and said, 'thank you, this place is ours now, I'll compensate you for it later?"

The man considered the question and waited for Beval to continue.

"You wouldn't find that very neighborly, would you?"

The man didn't respond.

"You wouldn't have a lasting bond of fellowship, would you?" Again no answer.

"No!" Beval yelled, "You would want the man dead?"

The man agreed.

"Well, I think the savages feel the same way about us and if I were in their position, I'd want us dead too. I would even try to strike

down our leaders if I could, just to weaken the morale of the others..." The courtroom was shocked.

"but, of course, they are not people. They are monsters, savages, incapable of rational thought and unable to be civil. Therefore, they must have a leader."

Beval paused for a moment to look around.

"...and like I said, if I were that man I would be proud, but I'm not. I em just a simple men who is guilty of making to many enemies."

He paused and approached the jury placing his hand on the railing for the last time.

"I am not the Father of Conspiracy," He said softly, "nor am I to blame for the actions of these native people. I had no hand in the attack on Samuel Champlain and I did not undermine the Queen's Rule in any way. Therefore, right here and now, I do proclaim my innocence to the accusations of these four men but I do affirm the guilt of our entire colony. Thank-you."

Slowly, Beval lifted his hand from the railing and returned to his chair. He had a bit of hope in his spirit. He knew the jury wouldn't find him guilty. They understood. He was sure of it.

"Mr. Lescarbot, do or your colleagues have anything further comments?" inquired the Judge.

"No, your Honour. The Prosecution rests."

The Judge looked over to the Jury and then to the audience. A look of confusion hung upon all the faces of those in attendance. Quickly, the Judge made a rash decision and spoke;

"The evidence that has been presented to this court is conclusive There will be no need for the Jury to retire."

Proud smiles revealed themselves on the faces of the prosecution "Mr. Deval there is no doubt in my mind that you are a conspirator. The truth may be that you are not the leading man behind these conspiracies but where there's smoke, there's fire and I believe you are actively involved."

Deval stood up to disagree but was shut down.

"The lack of respect you display for our government and for the church is appalling."

Deval tried to interrupt but couldn't.

"Furthermore, I found your testimony equally disrespectful. Words like your's hold the power to mislead good innocent citizens and you know it! With these words, you mock all that we as a colony hold sacred. It's belittling! We are not savages, Beval! They are! Not us! And to that I take personal offence."

Beval gave the Judge a pleading look.

"We are a civilized, compassionate and understanding people; and with you being one of us, I am shocked that you would suggest otherwise."

Devels mouth opened.

"Therefore,.."

The Judge paused to collect his thoughts before proceeding. "Mr. Devel, I find you guilty of treason."

The prosecution rejoiced as a wave of shock hit Beval. "Was this a fair trial?" he thought. "Did I not have the right to be judged by Jury?"

"Furthermore, as requested by the prosecution you are sentenced to hang by the neck until dead. This court is now adjourned." The Judge rose, as did the audience accordingly, exiting the courtroom. The jury then followed. Mark, Samuel, Poutincourt and Stewart all congratulate themselves on a job well done as a Porter came to remove Devel from the courtroom.

"Let's go Devel," exclaimed the porter.

"So I shall die and they shall live?"

The porter nodded, giving Devel a look of understanding before saying; "Only God truly knows which is better."

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National Aboriginal Day June 21, 2000



On June 21st, join in the celebrations to commemorate the unique accomplishments and contributions of Aboriginal peoples.

Contact your local community organization to find out what's happening in your area, and get involved! For more information, visit the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development website: www.inac.gc.ca

Remembering our past,
honouring our heritage
and celebrating our future



Aboriginal Guide to Aboriginal Services in Montreal

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This community nevertheless has a better awareness of its situation and demonstrates an increased desire to develop community-based, culturally appropriate services, of which is the Awasis Centre

The Awasis Centre is a preschool for children aged 0 to 5, its program address the needs of young Aboriginal children living in urban centres.

Awasis is a comprehensive program designed to meet the spiritual, emotional, intellectual and physical needs of the

child

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In conclusion, our Centre is now an integral part of the Montreal region urban Aboriginal community. We have an excellent dedicated team of parents, staff and volunteers eager to assist our little ones in their formative years. In the community spirit, Awasis was born and in that same spirit, it lives. (If you wish to volunteer, inquire about our program or visit us... our address follows)

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Linda Arkwright, E.D. and the Awasis
Team

Awasis Centre
639 Notre-Dame Ouest
Montreal, Qc, H3C 1H8
Phone: (514) 398-9528 Fax: (514)
398-9805 E-Mail: linda@awasis.com



A MESSAGE TO THE CREE NATION FROM KENNY BLACKSMITH

Candidate for Chairperson of the Cree School Board

Wachiye! We should be proud of the progress that we have made in Nation building. In education we have come a long way. We have worked hard to improve the education of our people. Yet, we have much more to do.

When I was elected as chairman in 1987, the Cree School Board was at the point of bankrupt-cy. The Council of Commissioners and the Board employees, with the support of the parents worked together and with the cooperation of the Ministry of Education, we overcame the difficulties. We can do it again! Before I left the Board to become Deputy Grand Chief, we held a conference on the future direction of the Board. The educators, parents and leadership who attended that conference gave the direction to focus our

efforts on developing and implementing a Cree School Board curriculum. This task still remains to be completed. Since that time the Cree people have called again for efforts to improve the curriculum and the use of the Cree Language.

If education is to be relevant to our people it must encourage the growth of a sense of dignity and pride in who we are as a people and it must result in skills and knowledge that provide employment and personal development. The Cree values, passed on to us from generations before must allow us to continue to build a relationship of trust, confidence and renewed commitment with all leadership and staff as this will always remain key to achieving the desired progress in Cree education.

If elected as Chairperson of the Cree School Board, in cooperation with the Council of Commissioners I will work with you to improve Cree education.

Among other things I will work to:

- 1. increase community ownership, involvement and resources to deal with educational issues;
- 2. establish a Cree Language Commission and undertake other measures to strengthen Cree as the language of instruction;
- establish adult and professional training facilities in the communities and increase community capacity to work with educators in setting the direction for these programs;
- **4.** facilitate the access of secondary students and graduates to international and national student exchange programs;
- **5.** set up a Post Secondary Graduate Employment Office and promoteCooperative Learning Programs to open the doors to full-time employment of the Cree students.

With your support, together we can achieve a renewed Cree vision of the future for our children and for the CreeNation. Meegwetch!

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READERS SURVEY 2000!

We were goofing off, as usual, one afternoon wondering what you the readers want. What you enjoy. What you listen to. What movies you watch. How old you are. Male or female. If you are still there for us of if you have left us for another.

In truth, we were feeling a bit insecure and wondering if you still love us the way you used to. Tell us you love us, won't you? Tell us you still care for us or not and you could win a big old basket full of mystery goodies.

Fill out this handy questionnaire, sign your name on the dotted line and send it in a.s.a.p. You know where to send it.

Everybody who's anybody knows where we are. And don't use any of that chicken scratch writing either. We have enough trouble trying to read faxes.

Without further ado, let the interrogation begin...

Which of the following do you read and why?

News	
Briefs	
Rez Notes	
Editorial	
Features	
Profiles	
Recipes	
Northern Sky	
Book Reviews	
Classifieds	

Poetry	
Letters	
Legends	
Cree@large	

What would you like to see in The Nation?

Humour

Comic strip

Fashion

Trivia

Word Games	
Jokes	
Funny Photos	
Crazy interviews	
Entertainment	

Internet	
Music, Film, Book Reviews	
Travel	
Restaurant Reviews	
Movie Listings	
Education	
History	St. Morollin as
Culture	
Tradition	

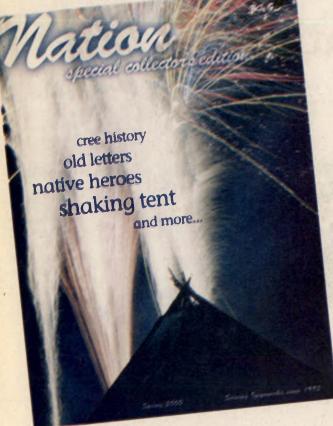
Language

Kids

Health				Type Size	1	2	3	4	5
Spirituality				Interesting	1	2	3	4	5
Healing				Educational	1	2	3	4	5
Nutrition				Fun	1	2	3	4	5
Exercise				Informative	1	2	3	4	5
Other				Negative	1	2	3	4	5
Inspirational Stories				Political	1	2	2	4	5
Horoscopes				Mediocre	1	2	3	4	5
Quizzes				Boring	1	2	3	4	5
Role Model				Other (Godlik					
Sports									
Parenting				Who are	you,	anyw	ay?		100
Contests				Name	3/4				
Polls	4.4			Age					
Streeters				Sex					
Business				Community			The party		al Wi
Name your favori	te:			Education		1231			
Movie			178	Marital Staus					
Magazine	117.5			Occupation	THE				
Book				Hobbies	-	4			
Song				Phone Number	er				
Band		7/1		Email					347
Food				Where Did Yo	ou Pick L	Jp This Is	ssue?	13 9	
Celebrity		43		Where Do Yo	u Usuall	y Read T	he Natio	n?	
Role Model				If you co					
Nation Issue				gets surpi	rise g	ift ba	asket!	Make	sure
Nation Cover				you answe			ions a	nd giv	e us
Rate the Nation							11/10	1	
Writing 1 2	3	4	5						
Photography 1 2	3	4	5						
Design 1 2	3	4	5						
Layout 1 2	3	4	5						
TEN TO BY MAIN	1					7 4			

June 2. 2000





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Let's get out and exercise our democratic rights!



Vote for the
Cree School Board Chairperson
of your choice.

Final List of Candidates

- George Blacksmith
- Kenny Blacksmith
- Mabel Herodier
- Luke Macleod
- Kathleen Wooton

Once again the polls will be open on June 1st, 2000 from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM in all the Cree Communities of Eeyou Istchee. Come and vote on election day.

Southern Offices

Val d'Or Native Friendship Center (819) 825-6857

1272 7ie Rue

Montreal Cree School Board (514) 878-9995

277 Duke Street, suite 200

Ottawa Grand Council Office-Cree Embassy (613) 761-1655





100-BIRTHS

A belated congratulations is going out to my wife Helen on Feb. 12, 2000, who delivered a baby girl in Chibougamau Hospital. Although I wasn't there for vou, I felt my presence was still there. Ricky

Congratulations to my cousin Twyla and Johnny Coon on the birth on their baby girl "Hannah Kelsey" born on April 5, 2000. A baby girl... one of the most beautiful miracles in life, the greatest joy you can ever know, and that is why there is a little extra sunshine, laughter and happiness in your world today. Your baby is special gift from God. Take good care of her. Love, Angelina Brien

Congratulations to my Godparents Harry and Emily for the birth of their son "Nebemiah" Dakota on April 25 at 7:50 pm. Just wait till he reaches 21-24 months. It'll be fun! I know, because I'm there right now. From Andree-Ann

Congratulations to Melissa Namagoose and Thomas Mark on the birth of their baby boy Linden Johnny born on April 4, 2000. A little baby brother for Yolanda! Take care of each other and we wish you all the best! In friendship, Marion, Michelle and Amanda. (Wask.)

I would like to congratulate

Dining Conference

facilities available.

my uncle Isaac and Sonia on the birth of their baby girl born on Nov. 27. A baby sister for Brad and Bailey. Take care of your little bundle of joy. Love Kerriane I would like to congratulate my cousin Robert and his girlfriend Kara on the birth of their first child Riverhunter on March 12. May vou enjoy the years of your little one and Emily, please don't bite your first grandson. Good luck and God bless. Hey! Pat, how does it feel to be an uncle? From Ruby, Brian, Neebin, Ethan and Bryan'sh.

Congratulations! To my cousin Christopher and his fiance Dorris on the birth of their baby girl Emma on May 8th in Chib. From Kyla, Keith and the

It's a girl! Congratulations to Cindy Coonishish and Jason Serafinowicz on the arrival of newly born daughter, Christie Coonishish on March 23 at 7:29 pm, weighing at an exact 7 lbs. Lots of love, Jennifer S. and Ryan Happyjack (Mtl.)

I would like to inform everyone that reads the Nation that a cute nephew of mine was born on April 25. His name is Nebemiah Dakota Bosum. Proud parents are Harry and Emily W. Bosum. Congratulations guys! From Weena

101-BIRTHDAYS

Happy Belated Birthday

Greetings going out to my new found friend George Salt from Waskaganish on May 7th. I hope you enjoyed your goose break with us. Take care and hope to see you again sometime. With lots of hugs and kisses, your new friend from Nemaska, Serenitee Neeposh

Special Birthday Greetings going out to Rachelle Lafond on May 27th. Hope you enjoy your special day. Take care of yourself. With love, Kathleen I would like to say happy birthday to my friends Savannah on May 11 and to Lana H. on May 18. Happy birthday girls and don't party too much or you won't remember your birthdays. From friend always, Dude ndwashimanan Grace. Happy 5th birthday on May 18, 2000. Always remember that I love you very much and I will always be there for you if you need me. With love, your cousin and whom you used to call your sister, Bella

Wishing my baby sister Queenie Blsmith a wonderful belated 17th birthday on May 12, 2000. On your birthday and always I wish you every little happiness in life, not just because you're my sister, but because I love you so much too. Your sister Bella

I would like to say Happy Birthday to Margaret Dick in Chisasbi on May 26. Happy birthday, girl. How old are

you? 75 eh? Just kidding! Margaret, maybe someday you'll be a singer someday Margaret someday. Ok that's enough of that right now. I just want to let you know that you're such a nice buddy. Happy birthday and many more to come. Oh, I almost forgot. Your birthday is on Friday right. Try not to party TOO much. From Guess who? PS. Are you still going out with??????

On May 25 birthday greetings going out to a wonderful beautiful lovely lovin' woman. Wishing you love, joy, peace and happiness. With lots of love, hugs and kisses, happy birthday from Right to Left.

Special birthday greetings to my sister Rose Iserhoff on Dec. 13, 99 in Chisasibi, Thinking of you with love and wishing you everything that brings you happiness. Happy birthday and many more to come. With love vour sister

We would like to take this time to send a happy greeting to a special person that we love very much. The person is our Dad, Ronnie Larry Trapper. His birthday is on May 9. We wish you all the best on your birthday. We also wanted to thank you for loving, caring, listening to us and for being there for us (you and Mom). Thanks for hanging in there with us during hard times and bad times. You helped a lot just being there with us. Thanks for



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teaching us right from wrong and for all that you've done for us. Mostly thanks for teaching us to love, respect others, encourage us in our studies and being our Dad. Once again, happy birthday to you and many more to come. We love you and always will. With lots of love, hugs and kisses, from all your kids grandchildren.

We want to wish a happy birthday to our sister Priscilla Coon-Come on May 20th, 2000. We wish you all the best on your birthday and many more to come. We are glad to say that we have you as a sister. Once again happy birthday. Love your sisters and your only brother.

I would like to wish a very happy birthday to someone special in my life my BIG LUG on May 17th. I know it embarrasses you to have your name printed for the world to see, that's why I love you so much. You're so sensitive. caring and loving and not to forget, a STUD! Especially in b**. Love forever and always, BUUZ...

We would like to wish our Little Bouj-Wab a happy 3rd birthday on May 22nd. This little guy can eat one whole ptarmigan by himself. Obese I say! But they say he takes after Mommy. Your personality and actions let us go through each day wearing a smile. We love you and don't you forget it. Mom and Dad

I would like to wish my buddy Valerie'sh a Happy belated birthday on March? Hope you come and visit me again. I still talk about you to Mommy. All the way from Whapmagoostui, Neebin

We would like to wish my brother and uncle Kevin Lee Loon a happy 19th belated birthday on May 10. We love you, from Kyla, Keith and your nephews Kyle and Darren Loon XOXO (Mistissini)

We would like to wish a Happy 2nd birthday to a little rascal Isaiah Loon on May 17 whom we adore so much! Lub you so much! From Kyla, Keith, Kyle and Darren XX00 (Mistissini) Brother for sale: only 50 cents. Just kidding! Happy 5th birthday to my brother Darren Ricco Kaelen on the 2nd of June. Hope you enjoy your day. Love you so much from your one and only brother, Kyle XOXO We love you too, Darren, from Mom and Dad XOXOXO

I want to say happy birthday to April Trapper on April 15. From your secret admirer

Happy birthday to my good friend Clayton V. on May 12. I'd much rather say this in person but I wish only the best for you now and always. PS I'll see you when I see you, K?

A wonderful birthday wish goes out to Mr. Ashley Iserhoff on May 12. At around this time I know you're traveling back from Florida on your Donald Duck Break. What a way to save the geese. I'm so proud of you, because I know for a fact you will be listed as "0" in the killing game of goose hunting but will be listed as "1" for the Donald Duck Hunt, Hope that Minnie Mouse got to pluck Donald Duck! Peace to you my bro, from me...

We would like to wish our grandparents a Happy Birthday. To our grandpa, Gilbert Georgekish. He will be celebrating his birthday on May 5. And our grandma Linda Georgekish will be celebrating her birthday on May 19. Happy birthday to you both. May your day be as special as you both are. We wish you all the best and many years to come. Love always from your grandsons Albert and Dylan Cheezo

102-WEDDINGS

Congratulations to Charlene and Leslie on your wedding day on Nov. 26, 99. It was a

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beautiful wedding, may you both have a wonderful lifetime together. From your wedding

A wedding was celebrated on April 21, 2000 in Amos. I would like to say I'm proud to see them married and happy. Congratulations to Mrs. John and Biance Fireman and to Isaiah. God bless you all. Love from Lucie and Martin

300-PERSONALS

I would like to say hi to my friends in Waskaganish: Faith Gilpin, Jamie and Mary Jacob, Maxine, Francine Weistche, Neesha-Chanan (I miss you) and Darral Salt. How are you all doing? I hope our friendship will never end even when I am

miles away from you all. Hey! Darral, I haven't heard from you since I came back from Waskaganish, give me a call. Maxine, how is it going with B...y? Hope to see you all this summer. Take care and enjoy your Goose Break. From friend Angelina Brien

Congratulations sending out to Vern Cooper and Stephan Gunner for playing in the Novice "AAA" team Sag-Lac-St.-Jean. Good luck on your provincial upcoming tournaments (May). Keep it up

Wishing you a wonderful Mother's Day, Mom (Winnie). I remember your arms around me as a child bringing comfort. I

remember your tenderness and your strength. I remember your listening ear and careful words of advice. Today I want to thank you for the example you've been to me and all you've given. You're the best Mom, and I love you. From Bella

WHAT WAS ONCE LOVE What was once love, is now just a memory, of you and me. What was once love, is now my loneliness. What was once love, is now your happiness, These Memories remain in this heart of mine, Cherishing these memories till the end of time, What was once love is now, your happiness. TPI would like to congratulate my brother Shadroch completed treatment in Moosonee on January 17 to February 21. I'm very proud of you. I guess Mom is very proud of you also. So she won't be worried about you at night, especially on weekends! I thank God for watching over you for all those hard times. So keep hanging on the road of recovery. Be strong, I know you can do it. Keep it up. Think twice before you take anything. I want to wish you all the joy and happiness, especially Maureen and Tommy (Boodoo). I'm glad that you spend precious time with your son Tommy, he'll never forget these times as he grows up, and your

daughter Katelin, she'll never forget you, you'll always be in her heart. She really loves you a lot. Oh! Almost forgot! Happy belated birthday brother, and many years to come. And for you Tommy, Happy 1st birthday and many more to come. Save some cake for me. From, your Aunt, sister, friend, Connie (Mtl.)

600-LOVERS & ADMIRERS

This goes out to a girl in Chisasibi. Her name is Roxanne Pelchat. Hey! I've been meaning to speak to you for a long time now. I cannot wait to see you again and am hoping that I would speak to you. I think you don't know me, but I surely know you. From your secret admirer.

I met this girl in Val d'Or. She was beautiful. She was tall. slim and her smile was beautiful. She's from Waskaganish. She knows who she is. We played pool and she beat me, she told me she's not good at playing pool but she beat me. We played pool at the Chateau Louie. She was fun to be with. I adored her a lot. I wish she was still here with me. holding me, kissing me, I miss her smile, and the way she talks, the way she is. I wish she was here with me forever and I wish she could be mine forever. I hope I will meet her again someday. And always remember that no matter how

far apart we are, I'll always be here for you. I really miss you a lot, girl! I can't wait to see you again. Let's meet again in Val d'Or. Sometime in June or July. Same place where we met. From somebody who cares about you and loves you

700-PENPALS

Hello you single ladies out there. I'm in search of a romantic, honest, warmhearted, sexy correspondent (penpal) between the age of 30-40 of Cree Nation. I'm 36, 5'9", Montaignais, long black hair, single and muscular build. An urgent correspondance is needed. Possibly serious relationship and photo please. Real Dominique, 758 Boul. St. Joseph, Roberval, QC, G8H 2L5, Lac St. Jean

Looking for e-pals between the ages of 17-20 of the cree nation male or female, it doesn't matter. I'm 17 soon to be 18. I like to meet new people. and looking forward to hearing from you lovely people! If you want to get to know me better! just write to me at friendly_2000_82@yahoo.com I'll be waiting!

It's Silly Girl here, I would like to recieve some Hot-mail from anyone and anywhere! I will be looking forward to your email so write to me, thanks! Write: Silly_angel69@hotmail.com!around the cree nation. Anyone interested in writing to me? I

am a cree girl between the ages 14-17. And i like to meet new people, especially by e-mail. If you want to get to know me better. Just write to me, my email adress is: g.cree@gurlmail.com

Looking for email friends. Email me maryniq@hotmail.com and I am a Cree/Inuit in Montreal, Hi Beth Sealhunter and hope you are okay. Hello! Miss Rachel KS. To all the people that enjoy receiving or sending e-mails. We are two native guys looking for e-mail penpals between the ages of 17 to 25. We promise to respond if we receive letters. Our goal is to make friends with you people who enjoy making friends through e-mails. Our e-mail addresses are Hab Boss @excitemail.com and T Bosum@excitemail.com. Hope you write to us. Later.

Hi! We are looking for some penpals we wanna hear from at any age and sex that would like to get to know us. We are a group of girls from Nemaska. We enjoy meeting new people and getting to know all the people aaround the James bay area and any where else especially making friends? Our initials are: ET, KD, TD, AT, CC, CW and CB. Hope to hear from you very soon. PEACE TO THE YOUTH.E-MAIL: ccckteabutterflies @Hotmail.com or

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Since December 17, 1999, smoking has been prohibited in the following establishments:*

- workplaces (except in smoking rooms);
- restaurants, shopping centre corridors and common areas, public transport terminals and entertainment centre lobbies, except in smoking areas, which must not exceed 40% of the places or space available to the public.

The ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux has set up a toll-free telephone line for members of the public and operators of establishments who have questions or complaints related to the Tobacco Act.

TOBACCO

The Tobacco Act also applies to other establishments. Operators of establishments covered by the Act are empowered to prohibit smoking everywhere on their premises. To find out more about the Tobacco Act, read the leaflet Breathing Easiert, available at your CLSC, or visit this Web site: www.msss.gouv.qc.ca/loi-labac

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Just tell me about yourself and
I'll tell you about myself when
I write back. I promised to
respond soon! Hope you write
to me!

nothing in my email. So I was hoping someone could maybe write to me. Who knows, maybe we'll meet someday if you're around the James Bay area after so many emails, cool eh? Anyway I hope to recieve email next time I check (which is pretty often). And I will respond, k? So here's my a d d r e s s , Nii eeyou@hotmail.com

Hi! We are looking for some penpals we wanna hear from at any age and sex that would like to get to know us. We are a group of girls from Nemaska. We enjoy meeting new people and getting to know all the people aaround the James bay area and any where else especially making friends? Our initials are: ET, KD, TD, AT, CC, CW and CB. Hope to hear from you very soon. PEACE TO THE YOUTH.E-MAIL:ccckteabutterflies @Hotmail.com gogobshished @Hotmail.com In search for a single female correspondant (Pen Pal) between the age of 22-30 of any Nation. I'm 29, 5' 10",

Algonquin, single and in shape. Looking forward to hearing from you. Philip Haymond, 851, 3e Ouest, Amos Quebec, J9T 2T4.

Hey Cree Nation, I am 18M, seeking email pen pals, so If your the kinda gal that likes to make friends through internet, well here's a chance. My email ad is: Myers_91@excite.com. The only hint that I can give you is that I am from around Waswanipi, Ojay and Mistissini. So if anyone beetween the age of 16-19 can email me, I promise to reply as soon as I can. from......Later

SCF seeking email penpals between the ages of 17-22 of any community. I'm 18, 5'7" and I love to make new friends. Looking forward to hearing from you! Dreamwhisper_excitemail.com. I'll be waiting.

Hello ladies! M/21/ single.Looking for a wife, Send pic, resume and applications to n d n s u p e r m a n _ 2 0 0 0 @yahoo.com (just kidding) I Would love to become email friends with gals (18-25yrs) reply soon, ndnsuperman.

H1! To the youth of Cree Nation.I am looking for some penpals at any age females or males.I'd love to have penpals and to be friends with anyone around the james Bay area. Email me at: friendshipcampus@Hotmail.com. I promise to reply A.S.A.P! I enjoy meeting new people and making new friends.

I'm French, 30 years old, artist painter interested in different Indian civilizations and their history. My wish is to communicate with one or two people. Cassandra Leupard 20, Rue de Dijon 70100 Arc les Gray, France

WEDDINGS

We want to congratulate Bianca and John Fireman on their wedding on April 21, 2000. Wishing you all the best of life's god things, the happiness of being loved. Hugs and kisses to all. Have a wonderful time on your wedding day. I am sorry I couldn't be there on your

wedding. Bonne Chance au futur. With love from Priscilla, Kevin and Quindon (Waskaganish)

Congratulations to Bianca and John Fireman on their wedding April 21, 2000. Wishing you both good health, happiness, a life time for today and years to come. Sorry I couldn't be there at your wedding. (Mais j'ai pense a vous durant votre mariage.) With love Shannon T.

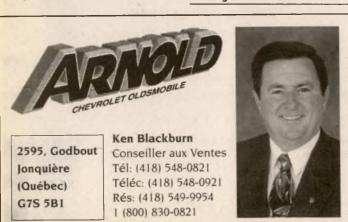
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THE JAMES BAY CREE TELEPHONE BOOK

Availible in November 2000, the James Bay Cree Telephone book brings us closer together - making it easier to contact each other - family to family, friend to friend, department to department and business to new and old customers. Make sure you're accessible, drop us a line if you have a new phone or number or if you're a new Cree business. The listing is free!

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We recently found a mysterious book on the 365 bus in downtown Montreal. It turned out to be a diary written by a young Cree woman living in Montreal, we'll call her Maggie. We decided to publish the least scandalous parts of it to share with our readers.

We thought we should introduce Maggie to you before we dive right into her diary excerpts, so here are a few details of her life to help you get to know her.

Name: Maggie

Age: 22

Hobbies: reading women's magazines, renting movies (and returning them late), making Cree crafts (but never quite getting them right)

Aspirations: to be a politician, but she's too honest and too shy

Occupation: political science student, looking for a summer job

Talents: gives great advice to family and friends

Best friend: Helen, thin, pretty, gossipy, obsessed about tweezing eyebrows and shopping at the GAP

Marital status: recently dumped ex, on the lookout

Ex-boyfriend: Mark, hockey player, got her cousin Joan pregnant back home

Likes: dollar store deals, sending cards home to family and friends, but never on time (Valentine's in April, Christmas in October)

Dislikes: cousins who sleep with boyfriend, boyfriends who sleep with cousins

Secret crush: cute waiter at neighbourhood cafe

Pets: goldfish with rock stars names (Mick, Bono, Bowie, etc.)
that die often that she keeps mourning over
and then replacing

Obsession: 1-800 horoscope lines that rack up her phone bill

Diet: at home prefers tea with tons of sugar, in Montreal is a coffee girl. Also Angela's Pizza, cereal for supper and jello, since it's non fat

Exercise: has a growing collection of various videos, but has never used them

Home: small 2 room on St. Mathieu, conveniently located near Angela's Pizza

Furniture: double bed, covered with her treasured 'blanky'
from childhood, walls are papered with photos
of models torn from her magazines to
encourage her from not pigging out and gaining
more weight, dreamcatchers that aren't quite
finished hanging everywhere, no couch
(friends sit on floor and take turns on the one
chair she owns)

Pet peeve: getting stuck in the elevator at her building after class when she's at her hungriest; also girl in class who's really 'into' Native stuff and is always asking her about traditions, legends, Cree words, etc.

Family: parents are back up North, very traditional older people, just don't understand why their daughter is so intent on living in Montreal and going to college. They agree with her grandparents: when will she just come home, get married and live in the bush with them?

Her older sister lives in the community too, is married to a Band Councillor, and has 4 kids.

They're pretty close but don't really understand each other

Nightime hangout: Crescent with friends from home, funky cafe on St. Laurent with friends from school

Secret passion unknown to anyone: she loves singing

Karoake, but is too shy to really do it

Look for Maggie's Diary in upcoming issues to find out more!

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